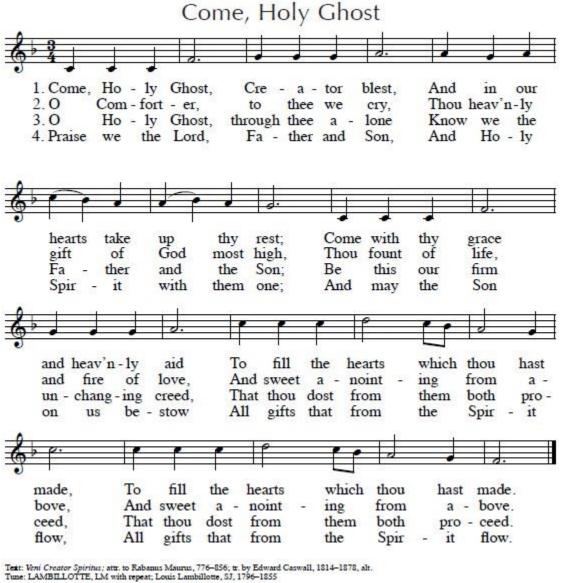
# Liturgy – Pentecost 2025 20th Anniversary of Light of Christ

#### **Opening Song: #472 Come, Holy Ghost**



Teri: Let us continue as one expression of God's people. + Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Amen.

Teri: May the Love of God, the care and compassion of the Incarnation, and the Fire of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

# Blessing of the Yard Signs (from 2020):

Teri: God, We ask you to bless these words, these yard signs. We ask that they embody your story of the good news. May they be seen and heard, by those who need to know that there is another way to be Catholic in the world. May we be emboldened to share with our neighbors that we are Your Light of Christ, asked to shine and share sacramental justice and radical hospitality in the Catholic tradition. We have already been blessed by the ideals of the Light of Christ Community that you have called together. May we now share that message with the world. We ask for **this** blessing in Jesus' name. *Amen.* 

# Penitential Rite

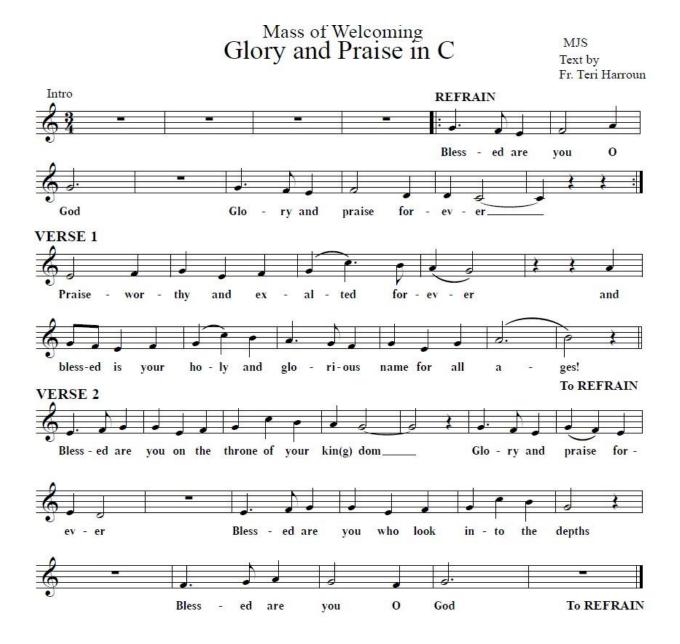
Richard Rohr reminds us, "that Jesus identifies forgiveness with breathing, the one thing that we have done constantly since we were born and will do until we die." He says God's forgiveness is like breathing. Forgiveness then is not apparently something God does; it is who God is. God can do no other. Knowing this, we turn to our God....breathing in God's love.....breathing out peace.....

Creating Breath, your Breath ignites a holy fire in the world. Lord have mercy.... *Lord have mercy* 

Incarnational Breath, you are the Breath within our breath. Christ have mercy.... *Christ have mercy* 

Spirit Breath, breathe in us, O Breath of God. Lord have mercy..... *Lord have mercy* 

May our loving God shower grace upon us, forgive us our sins, heal our brokenness, and lead us to everlasting life. *Amen.* 



# **Opening Prayer**

Mike: Let us pray.....

Teri: Spirit of God, You show us the sacredness of all the earth and all her creatures. You reveal Yourself in breath, fire, wind, water, and dirt. May we celebrate with burning hearts Your gifts within us and the warmth of Your passionate love rising up in the outpouring of Your grace everywhere. May we join with others in works of justice and peace for our world. In Jesus' name we pray: *Amen.* 

Mike: Let us all be seated now. We would like to invite the children over to the side aisle off camera with Fr. Teri for a short children's message tonight.

# Children's Talk:

Pentecost and fire. Not b-day of church but candles on the cake. Happy Birthday. (Distribute birthday candles.)

### First Reading:

Pam: Our First Reading is from Acts (2:1-13).

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. Suddenly, there came from the sky a sound like the rush of a strong, driving wind, and it filled the entire house where the disciples were staying. And then, what seemed to be tongues of fire appeared to them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were devout Judeans from every nation staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, a crowd gathered, and they were bewildered for each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking to us Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in our own native language? Residents from all known regions, near and far, both Judeans and converts to Judaism, in our own languages we hear them speaking about the marvels of God." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, sneered and said, "They have had too much new wine."

This has been a reading from Acts Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 104: #60 Lord, Send Out Your Spirit



\*May be sung as a canon.

Text: Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; Paul Lisicky, © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.; refrain trans. © 1969, ICEL Music: Paul Lisicky, © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### Second Reading: Pam

Our Second Reading is a modern poem called "The Grace that Scorches Us" by Jan Richardson.

Here's one thing you must understand about this blessing: it is not for you alone.

It is stubborn about this. Do not even try to lay hold of it if you are by yourself, thinking you can carry it on your own.

To bear this blessing, you must first take yourself to a place where everyone does not look like you or think like you, a place where they do not believe precisely as you believe, where their thoughts and ideas and gestures are not exact echoes of your own. Bring your sorrow.

Bring your grief. Bring your fear. Bring your weariness, your pain, your disgust at how broken the world is, how fractured, how fragmented by its fighting, its wars, its hungers, its penchant for power, its ceaseless repetition of the history it refuses to rise above.

I will not tell you this blessing will fix all that.

But in the place where you have gathered, wait. Watch. Listen. Lay aside your inability to be surprised,

your resistance to what you do not understand.

See then whether this blessing turns to flame on your tongue,

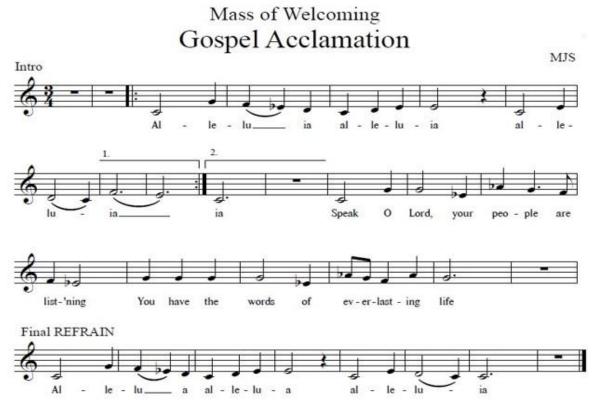
sets you to speaking what you cannot fathom

or opens your ear to a language beyond your imagining that comes as a knowing in your bones, a clarity in your heart that tells you

this is the reason we were made: for this ache that finally opens us,

for this struggle, this grace that scorches us toward one another and into the blazing day.

This has been a reading from a poem by Jan Richardson. *Thanks be to God.* 



#### Mike:

The Risen Christ be with you all. And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (24:44-49a) *Glory to you, O God*+

The Risen One said to the disciples, "These are my words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

Then, the Risen Christ opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, saying "It is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day. A call to repentance and a proclamation of forgiveness would be preached in the Messiah's name, reaching all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to these things. Behold, I send forth the promised Spirit upon you."

This has been a reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

# Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Homily - Teri

# Prayers of the People - Pam

Response: Holy Spirit, fire us up. Holy Spirit, fire us up.

For our world and its leaders, that the Holy Spirit may kindle love and empathy in their hearts, and so that particular care may be given to the marginalized in communities across the globe. We pray: *Holy Spirit, fire us up.* 

For those who have suffered from violence, oppression or abuse. We especially pray for the victims of the recent attack in Boulder. That they feel the warmth and presence of God in their lives as they work towards wholeness. We pray, *Holy Spirit, fire us up*.

For all Christians across the globe who are celebrating Pentecost this weekend, especially for our siblings of Bethlehem Lutheran, the community that agreed to partner with us 20 years ago and within whom we are nested. That the Holy Spirit may breathe into all our hearts and inspire us to find what unites us and work together to create a world where Christ's justice, peace, and love flourish. We pray: *Holy Spirit, fire us up.* 

For those who are sick, and for those who care for the sick. For those who feel isolated and alone. For those who struggle. (We pray especially for healing for \_\_\_\_\_\_.) That the Holy Spirit may be a glowing beacon of God's love in and through them in dark times. We pray: *Holy Spirit, fire us up.* 

For those who have died, (especially \_\_\_\_\_). For those who grieve and mourn the loss of friends, family, and companions. That the Holy Spirit may gather their souls into Her gentle, loving embrace. We pray: *Holy Spirit, fire us up.* 

Pam : Fr. Teri will now read the prayers that have been typed in the comments (PAUSE until Teri tells you to go on.)

For these and for all the prayers we share through our hearts, we pray: *Holy Spirit, fire us up.* 

Pam : In addition, Prayer Partners will be available after Mass here in the Sanctuary by the back altar. For those at home, or those who have a prayer to share during the week, you can email our Prayer Companion Team at prayercompanionteam@lightofchristecc.org and someone will reach out to you. These prayer ministries welcome and invite you, in confidence, to share your concerns in more detail or depth, or even to pray for you when you can't find the words.

Collect: Teri

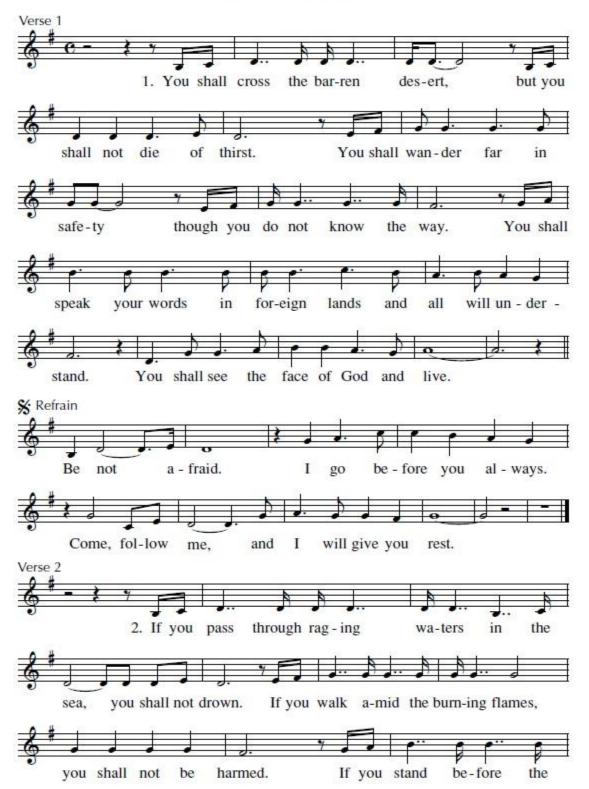
# Sign of Peace:

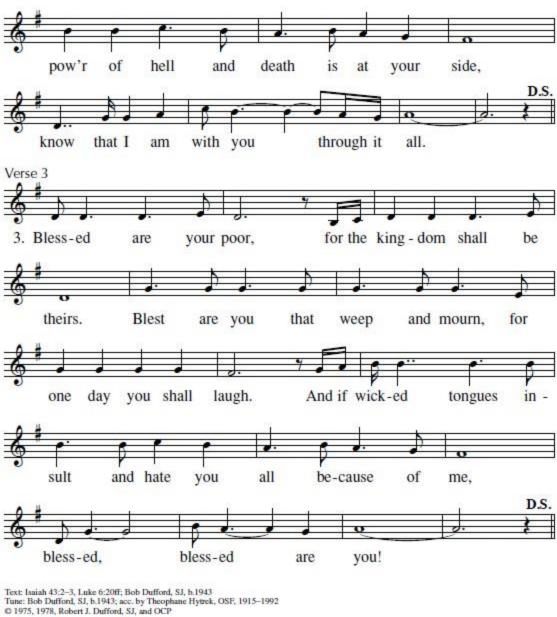
Mike: Let us all rise in body or spirit. Teri: My friends, may the peace of Christ be with you all. ALL: And also with you.

Mike: Let us share with one another a sign of our peace.

#### Offertory Song:#596 Be Not Afraid

Be Not Afraid





# Liturgy of the Eucharist:

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have this bread and this wine to place on your table. Work of earth and human hands. May these become our spiritual food and drink. Blessed be God forever.

Teri: Blessed are you, Loving God of all Creation, through your goodness we have these gifts to place on your table. They represent our entire lives, and all that we have to offer. These gifts have traveled through purses, pockets, and even the mail. May these become the Light of Christ in your world. **Blessed be God forever.** 

Mike: Pray my sisters and brothers, my family, that these our gifts, our lives may continue to be blessed by our Loving God.

# May the Lord accept the sacrifice at our hands, for the praise and glory of God's name, for our good and the good of all God's world.

Mike: Let us all rise in body or spirit. Teri: The peace of our God be with you all. *And also with you.* 

Teri: Open up our hearts. *We open them up to God.* 

Teri: Let us give thanks to our Loving God. *It is right to give God thanks and praise.* 

Teri: Divine Flame of Love, your glowing embers dance in our hearts. Your passionate presence kindles our souls. You purify us with the searing truth that ignites our spirits. Today we celebrate your nearness and remember your Pentecost promise and presence.

Beloved Creator, You have affirmed us as your beloved creation. You have energized us to keep on keeping on – working for justice and peace in the world, and spreading the news that all are welcome in your tent which you have pitched over all of our tables and gathered us together as one. We are grateful, and together with all of the holy choirs of heaven and earth we are glad to say:



# THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Teri: God, Goodness of the World, you prepare tables before us. Send your Holy Spirit upon us gathered around these tables throughout your world and gathered as your Body that we may become signs of your love and transforming work in the world. + Let also your Spirit come upon these gifts of bread and wine before us to make them holy so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our brother, Jesus the Christ. Today, we gather to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus ate with his followers and his friends. We recall how he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, and gave it to them saying - "Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body which will be given up for you."

We remember also, that on the night before Jesus died, He took the cup filled with wine, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying, *"Take this all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood. The blood of the new and everlasting covenant. It will be shed for you and for all so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."* 

# **MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION:**

Mike: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.....



# Teri:

As we celebrate this memory of Jesus, let us pray that we, like all the people gathered in the Upper Room on the First Pentecost will burn with love for the God of Surprises who breaks the bread of life and pours the cup of overflowing grace over all of creation.

May our hearts be joyful on our journey as we dream new dreams and see new visions. May we recognize Christ present in every person everywhere, broken and blessed and shared. Every day as we care for each other, may we encounter the God who dwells with us anew. May we become Spirit-Fire as we fan the flames of love over the entire cosmos.

Be with our family and friends, the young and the old, the sick and the dying. Bless. Protect. Heal. Encourage. And comfort all who need your grace, O God. We remember our chosen shepherds in our prayer as well, especially Bishop Kae and Bishop Paul. May your blessed fire re-ignite within them a spark of imagination and renewal.

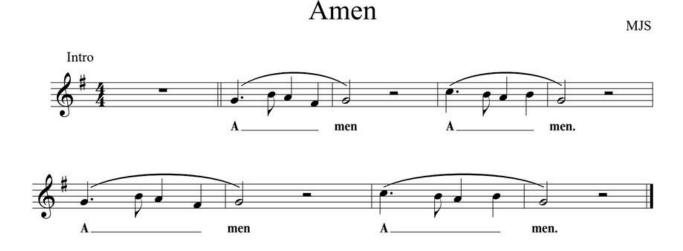
May all creation dance in your presence. May we become one heart, one mind, one spirit with everything. May we turn away from efforts to dominate anyone or anything. May we see your face in the stars, the wind, the sun, and the moon.

May your love kindle our friendship with all the saints, including Mary the mother of Jesus, Mary of Magdala, John the evangelist, our patron saints, and the countless friends and ancestors who have died in the hope of rising again. May we one day dwell with them in love with You forever and ever.

Teri: Together now, we say.....

# Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours all loving God, forever and ever.

Mass of Welcoming



# HAIL MARY/LORD'S PRAYER

Mike: Let us join our hearts together in love, holding the world and one another in prayer. Today, we will begin by praying the Hail Mary, and then will go right into praying together in the words that have been prayed with Jesus for centuries:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us (children), now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil...

For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



Teri: This is the Living God. This is the Body and Blood of Christ. The one who transforms the world with love. The one who transforms us. Blessed are we who are called to this meal.

# God, I am ready to receive you. Because by your invitation, I am here.

# (Invitation to Communion)

We are invited to these tables just as we are.

Wherever you are on this journey of life, you are welcome here: here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Let us look for God in the breaking of this bread.

Teri: Gives general instructions for Communion ending with......The most important thing is that you know that you are welcome here.

Mike: Come as you are, and let us share the meal of Christ together.

Teri: For those who join us from home, receive the grace that God shares with you on this day.

#### Communion Song: #830 Seed, Scattered and Sown



Text: Didache 9, 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, Mark 4:3-6; Dan Feiten, b.1953 Tune: Dan Feiten, b.1953; keyboard arr. by Eric Gunnison, R.J. Miller © 1987, Ekklesia Music, Inc.

#### Prayer after Communion:

Mike: Please rise in body or spirit. And let us pray.....

Teri: O God, In the name of the Fire and Flame and Light, may this meal that we share today be a spark within us, fanning the flames of your love. Fuel our hearts with your Divine energy. Thank you for walking hand in hand with us on our journey. Breathe new urgency into our love of life. In your Holy Name we pray: *Amen*.

Teri: The Love of God be with you.

### ALL: And also with you.

Mike: Please open your hearts, as we ask for God's blessing.

Teri:

Come, Holy Spirit, come burn a holiness in our pockets be the fire in our minds, our hearts, and our bellies may we know You as the Breath within our breath give us language we have yet to imagine to speak <u>up</u> speaking truth of prophets and blessings of priests give us compassion like yours to show <u>up</u> being the hands of Christ that tend and mend give us a fire in our bellies to be worked <u>up</u> refusing to give <u>up</u> on the work of justice and peace and give us a rest that helps us dream <u>up</u>

a new understanding of Your will, as we continue to pray <u>up</u> in words that have been prayed for centuries: on earth as it is in heaven

Come Holy Spirit, come build us <u>up</u> as the Light of Christ on earth as we build <u>up</u> the reign of God's kin-dom on earth that it may circle <u>up</u> and embrace the earth in grace and love a grace that begets grace, and love that begets love...

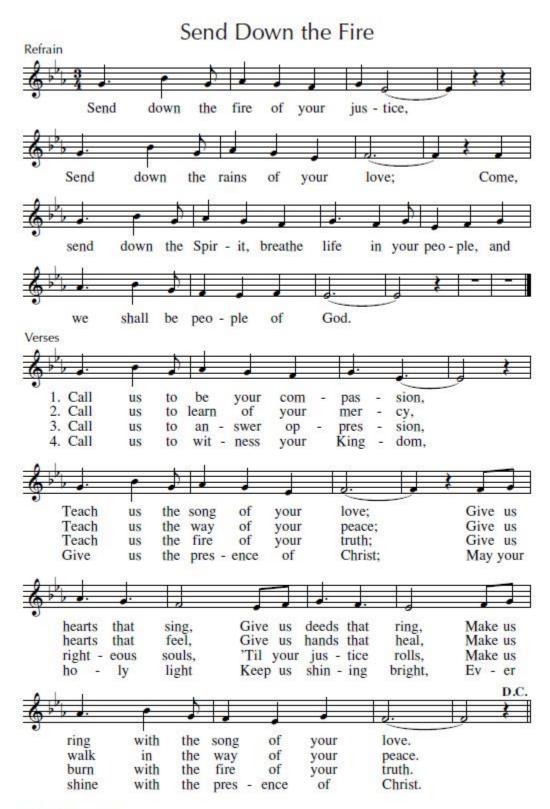
may we be Your kindling today may we be the Light of Christ for what is needed tomorrow Come Holy Spirit, come and wake us <u>up</u>! 20 years is not enough. may Your fire burn within us. (Amen......poem by Fr. Teri)

We ask for this blessing now, in the name of the Fire, the Flame, and ever expanding Light. *Amen*.

We are the Light of Christ. We are the Light of Christ. **TERI: A BOLDLY INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC CHURCH!!!** ....A boldly inclusive Catholic church..... Mike: Let us go forth as such. Let us go forth as such. Loving and serving God. Loving and serving God. As we get to love and serve in God's world. As we get to love and serve in God's world.

Thanks be to God. *Thanks be to God.* 

#### **Closing Hymn: # 477 Send Down the Fire**



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1989, GLA Publications, Inc.